

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
POLLUTION REPORT

ORIGINAL

Date: Friday, June 08, 2007

From: Dominic Ventura

Subject:

Continuation of work
Elkton Farm Firehole
183 Zeitler Rd., Elkton, MD
Latitude: 39.6292184
Longitude: -75.8681150



SDMS DocID

2210725

POLREP No.:	42	Site #:	A3DH RV
Reporting Period:	5/28 - 6/8	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	1/31/2006	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	1/31/2006	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

Work Mission Statement:

Safely and efficiently investigate and remove Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC); Materials Potentially Possessing an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH), Munitions Debris (MD) and explosively contaminated soil(TNT) from the Elkton Farms Firehole Site, as defined in EPA's geophysical study.

Current Activities

USA Environmental under sub contract to GES continues to work the mag and dig approach, within Phase I. Two teams of 5 people are separated under the MSD of 200ft. USA continues to mag and dig grids and perform individual grid QC. The QC'd grid is then forwarded onto EPA for final QA. EPA - Start UXO tech continues to oversee USA mag and dig performance and completes final QA grid analysis as per SOP developed on site. Each grid receives individual signoff by USA, GES, Start and finally the EPA OSC.

Phase I geographical area consists of the low density grids surrounding the fireholes. It is estimated that there are 30 to 35 remaining Phase I grids.

The following stats apply since remobilization occurred on April 24, 2007:

1. Total Grids Cleared Gov't QA: 16
2. Total digs (anomalies): 18,224
3. Total MEC found: 1695 (MEC items include detonators, grenade fuze, blasting caps, tracer

elements, incendiary bomblets, flares etc. etc.)

4. Total MD found: 572lbs.

5. Scrap metal found: 472lbs

Specific grids that were worked and passed QA this reporting period included H2a,G2a,G2b,E4c,E4d. Grids worked and that did not get completed included grid G5a and H2b.

On 6/7 FOSC, Start and MDE met with GES to discuss Phase II soil washing concept design. Based on pilot testing conducted in the past two weeks it was determined that most efficient approach would be in utilizing a 1.5 inch over a 0.75/0.5 inch mesh screen. Large quantities of percussion primers such as the 55-grain M38A1 and the 20-grain M23A1 are being discovered at Elkton Farm Firehole. Refer to this polrep image. These items are much smaller than any of the target ordnance identified during previous phases of the investigation. The percussion primers were discovered in larger quantities during pilot sifting operations in grid I4C. The primers are in a deteriorated condition and significantly smaller than a dime. The small size sifting screen mesh (<0.5in) that would be required to catch these smaller items severely inhibits the passage of soil through the screen. The hazard presented, by these and similar-sized items, is minimal unless large numbers of the items are collected, confined and detonated in a tightly sealed metal container. Individually, and if in good condition, the items could have a low explosive content on the order of a .22 caliber blank for a starter pistol.

Site personnel continue to communicate and coordinate with neighboring ATK to ensure protection of site personnel during ATK batch testing operations.

FOSC continues to conduct weekly project management meeting/conference call, which includes EPA, MDE, Start, GES, USA and RMC both field components and their offices. It is anticipated that the week of July 4 will be an off week for all site personnel and that Phase II activities may initiate after site work commences on July 9.

www.epaosc.org/elktonfarmfirehole